

ORIG :
 UNIT :
 EXT :
 DATE : 16 MAY 1957

CLASSIFIED BY [REDACTED] 16 MAY 57 BY [REDACTED]

ROUTING

1	OPS	4	MAT
2	RMB	5	ADMIN/SO
3	JAG	6	RI

25X1

TO :

FROM : DIRECTOR

CONF : SA/PC/DCI (1,2,3,4,5,6)

INFO : S/C (7)

TOP SECRET

25X1

RDO

OUTGOING MAIL
PRIORITYPRIORITY
PRECEDENCE

0246

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1. / AS A RESULT OF OUR MEETING WITH OPERATIONS PERSONNEL AT SAC HQS 15 MAY TO DISCUSS THE OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF OUR FUTURE OPERATIONS IN EAST RUSSIA, IT WAS THE CONCERTED OPINION THAT COVERAGE OF KAMCHATKA AND BAIKAL TARGETS SHOULD NOT BE ATTEMPTED THE BASIC FACTOR BEHIND THIS REASONING IS THAT APPROACHES TO TARGETS IMPOSED BY LIMITED RANGE WILL MAKE RADAR DETECTION IN BOTH AREAS ALMOST CERTAIN. THE PLAN EVOLVED, AND ALL WERE IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON THIS, IS (1) COVER KAMCHATKA TARGETS WITH A PRE AND POST-FLIGHT STAGE MISSION FROM AND (2) COVER LAKE BAIKAL TARGETS WITH A MISSION PRE AND POST-FLIGHT STAGING IN THE CASE OF THE KAMCHATKA MISSION, THERE ARE SEVERAL DISTINCT ADVANTAGES. THESE ARE:

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B. THIS ROUTE WILL ALLOW TARGET ACCESS WEST OF THE SEA THIS GIVING THE PILOT AN OPPORTUNITY TO EVALUATE TARGET WEATHER CONDITIONS BEFORE PENETRATING RUSSIAN TERRITORY. THIS IS PARTICULARLY DESIRABLE BECAUSE

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0256 (OUT 64119)

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PAGE TWO

TOP SECRET

OF THE LOW CONFIDENCE FACTOR THE WEATHER FORECASTERS HAVE IN KAMCHATKA WEATHER.

C. BECAUSE OF THE INTENSE USAF FERRET ACTIVITY IN THE KAMCHATKA AREA, OUR FLIGHTS IF DETECTED MAY WELL BE TAKEN FOR ROUTINE FERRET ACTIVITY WHICH NORMALLY DOES NOT CAUSE AN ALL OUT ALERT.

D. EXCELLENT NAVIGATION CHECK POINTS EXIST ALONG THE OVER WATER

ROUTE FROM [REDACTED] TO COVER THE KAMCHATKA TARGETS IN THE MANNER

25X1

DESCRIBED ABOVE FROM [REDACTED] WAS CONSIDERED AND ALTHOUGH

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THIS WOULD ALLOW SUFFICIENT RANGE TO MAKE A WESTWARD PENETRATION FROM THE SEA, THE RADAR SURVEILLANCE PROBLEM DURING CLEAR-OUT AND ENROUTE MAKES THIS PLAN UNDESIRABLE. ALSO ROUTE NAVIGATION OVER WATER FROM [REDACTED] WOULD BE LIMITED TO DR AND CMESRIAL.

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2. IN THE CASE OF LAKE BAIKAL TARGETS, THE DISTANCE FROM [REDACTED] TO

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BAIKAL LEAVES NOTHING IN RANGE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PRESENTLY WEAK SPOTS IN EAST RUSSIAN RADAR DEFENSES. HOWEVER, WERE IT POSSIBLE TO INCREASE OUR RANGE

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[REDACTED] THE PRESENT ROB SHOWS NO POINT ON THE PACIFIC SHORE WHICH PENETRATION COULD BE MADE UNDETECTED. IN STAGING FROM MEDIUM TO HIGH GROUND [REDACTED]

THAT THE ROUTE AND APPROACH TO TARGET WILL BE MADE OVER AN AREA OF LITTLE OR

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PRIORITY

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NO KNOWN RADAR AND IT IS CONSIDERED VERY LIKELY THAT PENETRATION TO THE TARGET AREA COULD BE MADE WITHOUT DETECTION. ALTHOUGH THE TERMINAL CONDITIONS AT PESHAWAR ARE NOT AS GOOD AS THOSE [REDACTED] TIME ARE CONSIDERED ADEQUATE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS MISSION AND IT IS FELT THAT THE INCONVENIENCE AND DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN LAUNCHING A MISSION FROM PESHAWAR ARE FAR OUT-WEIGHED BY THE VAST RADAR DEFENSES TO BE PENETRATED ENROUTE TO THE TARGET

25X1

[REDACTED] SHOULD YOU CONCUR THIS PROGRAM PLANNING WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY TO EFFECT [REDACTED] STAGING. INFO AVAILABLE SAC HQS INDICATES LFLA AND MAZ STARTER UNITS IN PLACE EIELSON. THIS WILL REDUCE STAGING EFFORT TO TRANSPORTING FAK, PERSONNEL AND LIMITED AMOUNT OF EQUIPMENT TO [REDACTED] SAC HQS AGREED TO SUPPORT FULLY ALL ASPECTS OF THE [REDACTED] OPERATION. FULL ALL-OUT EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO PROVIDE PAKISTAN STAGING BASE.

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END OF MESSAGE

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